In the past week, a total of 220 consultations for influenza-like illness were reported from 87 general practices in all 24 health districts. This gives a weekly consultation rate of 56.1 per 100 000 patient population.

The graph below compares the consultation rates for influenza-like illness for each health district over the past week. Gisborne had the highest consultation rate (261.1 per 100 000, 8 cases), followed by Eastern Bay of Plenty (203.5 per 100 000, 4 cases) and Rotorua (180.5 per 100 000, 3 cases).

Eighty-one swabs were sent from the sentinel surveillance in the past week. Eighty-three swabs were received by the virology laboratories. Of these, four seasonal influenza AH1N1 viruses by PCR were identified from Taupo (2), Northland (1), and Nelson Marlborough (1).

In addition, 74 influenza viruses were reported this week from the laboratory-based (non-sentinel) surveillance: seasonal AH1N1 by PCR (62), seasonal influenza AH3N2 by PCR (10), and influenza A (yet to be sub-typed) (2). The distribution by health district is shown in Table 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antigenic Strain</th>
<th>NL</th>
<th>CA</th>
<th>WK</th>
<th>TG</th>
<th>BE</th>
<th>RO</th>
<th>HB</th>
<th>WN</th>
<th>HU</th>
<th>CB</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A (not sub-typed)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>seasonal influenza AH1N1 by PCR</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>seasonal influenza AH3N2 by PCR</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 2 shows the cumulative total of influenza viruses confirmed (sentinel and laboratory-based surveillance) to the end of week 24, 14 June 2009. A total of 157 influenza viruses were identified: seasonal AH1N1 by PCR (99), seasonal AH3N2 by PCR (30), A (yet to be sub-typed) (20), A/Brisbane/59/2007 (H1N1)-like virus (6), and B (not antigenically typed) (2). So far, 18 seasonal AH1N1 viruses have been tested for the H275Y mutation (histidine-to-tyrosine mutation at the codon of 275 in N1 numbering) which is known to confer resistance to Oseltamivir. All 18 viruses had the H275Y mutation.

![Figure 2: Cumulative laboratory-confirmed isolates by health district to 14 June 2009](image)

Note: Viruses from Auckland without health district codes have been temporarily assigned to Central Auckland (CA).

Figure 3 shows the weekly national consultation rates for 2007 and 2008 seasons, and 2009 so far. The current rate of influenza is higher than at the same time last year.

\[1\] Data exclude Novel influenza A H1N1 09 viruses. Please refer to the Ministry of Health’s website for further information: [http://www.moh.govt.nz/influenza-a-h1n1](http://www.moh.govt.nz/influenza-a-h1n1)
Figure 3: Weekly consultation rates for influenza-like illness in New Zealand, 2007, 2008 and 2009.
Figure 4 illustrates consultation rates for influenza-like illness mapped by health district for week 24, 2009.
Novel influenza A H1N1 09 virus update in New Zealand

Epidemic Curve (as at 12pm 19th June 2009)

Epidemic curve for novel influenza A H1N1 09 has been created using the earliest date recorded in EpiSurv (report, onset, or hospitalised date).

**Figure 5:** Novel influenza A H1N1 09 epidemic curve using earliest date entered in EpiSurv as at 12pm 19th June 2009. Confirmed n=184, Probable n=17, Suspect n=661.

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